



## NSF DAY SPEAKERS—From NSF

April 8, 2016

University of Alaska Anchorage



UNIVERSITY of ALASKA  
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**Anjuli S. Bamzai**

GEO – Geosciences

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**Anjuli Bamzai** directs the Climate and Large-Scale Dynamics program which advances knowledge about the processes that force and regulate the atmosphere's synoptic planetary circulation, weather and climate, and sustains the pool of human resources required for excellence in synoptic and global atmospheric dynamics and climate research. She has served on the management teams for the Earth System Modeling at Decadal and Regional Scales. She recently served for a year in the arctic sciences section of NSF's Polar Division and primarily worked on the development of the biennial report for the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee. She also served as a program manager at DoE's Office of Science and NOAA Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. She completed her graduate education from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, and holds a Ph.D. in Earth System and Global Changes from George Mason University, from which she received the Distinguished Alumna Award. She has published in numerous, prominent journals.



**Jean Feldman**

BFA – Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

Division of Institution and Award Support (DIAS)

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**Jean Feldman** heads NSF's Policy Office and is responsible for establishing proposal and award policies and procedures as outlined in the *Proposal & Award Manual*; *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* and *Standard Grant and Cooperative Agreement Terms and Conditions*. As NSF's clearance officer, Jean approves all NSF announcements, solicitations, Dear Colleague Letters, and other related documents prior to posting. Jean has been actively involved in numerous interagency streamlining activities. She served on the Council of Federal Financial Assistance Reform Drafting Group that was responsible for development of the new OMB Uniform Requirements. She also leads the interagency committee response for updating the Research Terms and Conditions. Prior to joining NSF in 1992, Jean worked in policy positions with the US Air Force Office of Scientific Research and the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.



**Deborah Jackson**

ENG – Engineering

Engineering Education Centers (EEC)

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**Deborah Jackson** is a hands-on professional with more than 30 years of broad based experience in research and development, project management, strategic planning and product delivery. Currently at NSF, she leads the Microelectronics, Sensors, and Information Technologies Cluster within the Engineering Research Center's (ERC) program office. In that capacity, her near term objective is to foster successful development of the innovation ecosystems supporting the technologies behind each ERC systems vision.



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**Ralph Wachter**

CISE – Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering  
Computer and Network (CNS) Division  
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**Ralph Wachter** has expertise in computer science and mathematics. At NSF since \_\_\_\_, he has been engaged in cross-directorate programs involving Cyber-Physical Systems, Faculty Early Career Development, the National Robotics Initiative, Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace and Designing Materials to Revolutionize and Engineer our Future. He has been a reviewer for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency or “DARPA,” the Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Secretary of Defense and Defense-wide Manufacturing Science and Technology. He also serves on the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy’s subcommittee on Homeland and National Security.



**Susan Weiler**

OIA – Office of Integrated Activities  
Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)  
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Sue Weiler has held NSF positions in EPSCoR and GEO—its divisions of Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences and Polar Programs and has experience with cross-cutting programs such as EPSCoR Tracks I and II, CAREER, MRI, SEES, REU Sites and GRF. Sue completed a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of California at San Diego and Scripps Institution of Oceanography and is currently a senior research scientist at Whitman College. She has served as an associate editor for *Oceanography* and was executive director of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography from 1990-1999. Current work focuses on Earth system science in the context of mentoring and training early career Ph.D. researchers to work collaboratively as part of interdisciplinary research teams. As founder and director of the Dissertations Initiative to Advance Climate Change Research (DISCCRS; <http://disccrs.org>) she facilitates development of interdisciplinary research networks and conducts research on interdisciplinary collaborative processes.



**Lisa-Joy Zgorski**

OLPA – Office of the Director’s Office of Legislative and Public Affairs  
External Affairs  
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**Lisa-Joy Zgorski** is a public affairs specialist and NSF Days lead. Since joining the NSF in 2007, she has received Director’s Awards for work with CISE, EHR and the National Science Board. Her other beats have included NSF’s International office, SBE, Physics and Astronomy. Lisa-Joy served as a legislative aide for U.S. Rep. Barbara Kennelly (CT); press secretary for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and (then-gubernatorial candidate) Gov. Dan Malloy of Connecticut, and as a public affairs specialist in the press offices of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, the Office of Management and Budget and The Century Foundation. She holds an MPP, Harvard Kennedy School of Government; a A.B., Mount Holyoke College; and certificates in policy studies from Dartmouth College and the Charles University Law Faculty in Prague.



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**Lee Zia**

EHR – Education and Human Resources  
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**Lee Zia** is the deputy division director for DUE. He served as the lead program director for the NSF National Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology Education Digital Library (NSDL) Program from its inception in FY 2000 to its sunsetting in FY 2010. He served as a rotator in NSF's Division of Undergraduate Education in 1995 and 1996 while on leave from the Department of Mathematics at the University of New Hampshire. Zia rejoined the NSF as a permanent staff member in the fall of 1999. From November 2008 to December 2009, he served as a Commerce Science and Technology Fellow in the Office of Senator John D. Rockefeller IV. Most recently he served as the lead program director for the STEM Talent Expansion Program (STEP). Zia holds degrees in mathematics from the University of North Carolina (B.S.), the University of Michigan (M.S.), and from Brown University (Ph.D.).





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### LUNCH PANEL

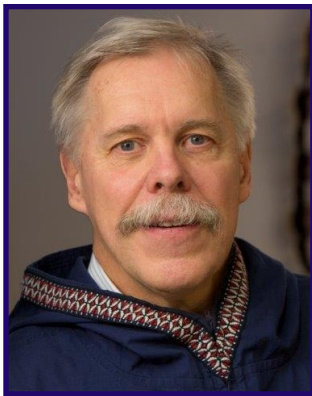
#### *Lessons from the Field: NSF-funded researchers share best practices*



**Richard Boone**

Professor of Ecosystem Ecology  
Department of Biology and Wildlife and the Institute of Arctic Biology  
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**Richard Boone** served as department chair from 2006 to 2010 and as Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies in the College of Natural Science and Mathematics from 2010 to 2011. He acquired early training in ecology as a student and later a research assistant at The Marine Biological Lab, Woods Hole, Mass. He received his A.B. in Biology from Oberlin College, M.S. in Forest Ecology from Oregon State University, and Ph.D. in Forest Soils from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His research interests include nitrogen cycling, soil respiration, soil organic matter dynamics, global change biology, and science education. Boone recently served in several positions at the National Science Foundation: as acting deputy director, Division of Graduate Education (2014-2015); program director of NSF's Research Traineeship Program (2014-2015); and its predecessor, the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program (2011-2015).



**Herb Schroeder**

University of Alaska Anchorage  
[herb@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:herb@uaa.alaska.edu)

**Herb Schroeder** created the Alaska Native Science & Engineering Program (ANSEP) in 1995. ANSEP has evolved into a longitudinal education model that provides a continuous string of components to approximately 2,000 current students from sixth grade, through high school, into BS STEM majors, and through graduate school to the PhD. ANSEP brings socially and academically prepared students to the university and fosters success at the university. By leveraging \$6.9 million in NSF funding he has raised in excess of \$40 million to support this effort. The Urban Institute has found that ANSEP students exceed national academic averages at every academic level.



**Frank A. von Hippel**

University of Alaska Anchorage  
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**Frank von Hippel** grew up in Anchorage. He received his A.B. in Biology from Dartmouth College in 1989, and his Ph.D. in Integrative Biology from the University of California Berkeley in 1996. Since 2000, Frank has been a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Alaska Anchorage. This summer he will be moving to Northern Arizona University. Frank's research focuses on two areas: evolutionary ecology and ecotoxicology, both using freshwater fishes as study animals. Frank's research incorporates molecular, organismal, and ecological approaches to solve problems in evolutionary biology, conservation biology, and environmental health.



## LUNCH PANEL

### *Lessons from the Field: NSF-funded researchers share best practices*



**Cheryl Ann Denesha Wilga**  
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**Cheryl Wilga** focuses her research interests on the biomechanics, functional morphology, and evolution of behaviors that are key to individual survival, such as feeding, breathing, and swimming in fishes. Her research is interdisciplinary in that she uses biological and engineering techniques to investigate these behaviors. She has received several NSF awards from various programs: regular research, conference, MRI, CAA, MUE, SRG, and postdoctoral. Her education and training are from the University of Alaska Kodiak and University of South Florida, with professional experience at the University of California Irvine, Harvard University, the University of Rhode Island and UAA, where she is currently Interim Director and Professor of Biological Sciences.

## LEADERSHIP

### *University of Alaska Anchorage*

#### **Te Honorable Judy May Chu**



**Helena S. Wisniewski**  
Vice Provost for Research  
Graduate Studies Dean of the Graduate School  
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**Helena S. Wisniewski**, leads the research enterprise, including commercialization. She is president, Seawolf Holdings, and founding director, Arctic Domain Awareness Center. Her executive experience includes government, academia, industry - vice president, Research and Enterprise Development, Stevens Institute of Technology; vice president, Titan Corporation; senior executive, Lockheed, at DARPA created its first mathematics program. A technological entrepreneur who launched and sold startup companies, she serves on public and private boards, and the SECNAV appointed her to NRAC. She received awards for outstanding leadership, entrepreneurship, significant scientific contributions, most recently elected a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors.